

SCRANTON TRIBUNE

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THE SCRANTON TRIBUNE.

SCRANTON, APRIL 4, 1894.

ADMITTING THAT building materials and labor are uncommonly cheap just now, would the shrewd moneyed men of Scranton invest in new buildings if they foresaw no future for this city? Would they put money even in cheap real estate, without faith in a sure return?

What of the Grand Army?

It is growing sadly evident that unless some means be taken to perpetuate the Grand Army of the Republic, that magnificent organization of loyal Union veterans must soon succumb to the relentless march of time. The average age of its membership is well past the half-century mark, and although many of these sturdy warriors possess rugged and well-preserved constitutions, it passes beyond all reason to expect the rank and file, after all their severe exposures in unhealthy camps, deadly prison pens or on southern battle fields, to long beat back the warily marshaled forces of old age, disease, Democratic ingratitude and general decline. Unless, therefore, there be soon admitted to post camp fires and departmental bivouacs representatives of a younger generation, this splendidly conducted organization must, when its present membership shall have been mustered into the shadow land, lapse and become only a memory.

At the Detroit encampment, three years ago, a resolution was presented providing for the admission of sons of members to full membership, with all the responsibilities and privileges. This proposition met with determined opposition and was finally defeated. It had been prematurely suggested. Since that time, however, many who voted to reject it have indicated their wish to recall that veto and to permit the organization of a veterans' sons' auxiliary body, upon the plan of the Society of the Cincinnati and the Sons of the Revolution. It has been deemed wise by many that through this medium the patriotic and fraternal principles of the Grand Army should be perpetuated and the names, memories and deeds of those who fought for the Union be preserved and handed down through all time.

All poets in the Department of the Potomac have just co-operated in the adoption of a memorial to the next annual grand encampment urging it to open the organization's doors to sons of present members and to the sons of all honorably discharged Union veterans, living or dead. It is probable that this action will again bring the question prominently before local poets; and while there may be opposition it is believed that this time the proposition will poll a respectable majority. It certainly would be an incalculable loss to the nation were the one great organization of its last volunteer defenders to expire without provision for the continuance of its patriotic work and the perpetuation of its heroic spirit.

WASHINGTON FOREBROOK feared the rapid centralization of partisan political power; Lincoln the massing of great wealth in the hands of the few, and Blaine the present panic in consequence of needless economic experiment. But the government at Washington cultivated each of these noble sons, and it is entirely too soon for this generation to despair of our republic's ultimate triumph.

As to a Municipal Party. One of the outgrowths of the recent Philadelphia conference of municipal reformers was the appointment of a committee of seven charged with the duty of forming a National League for Good City Government. Of this committee Herbert Welsh was appointed president. In the current number of a leading magazine Mr. Welsh briefly reviews the work done at the recent conference, re-states the municipal problem as it appears from his standpoint and outlines what the new National League hopes to accomplish in the direction of municipal regeneration.

It is not necessary to explain how or why our cities at this time, taken as a class, are wretchedly governed. We may therefore proceed at once to Mr. Welsh's plan of betterment. In the first place he enunciates the principle that "the foundation for all good city government must be laid in the unhesitating adoption of the principles of civil service reform;" that is to say, the spoils system must be abolished. The party "boss is robbed of his most formidable weapon when he is no longer able to reward his henchmen from the public treasury by gift of office." The second requisite is that in approaching the question of good government in our municipalities we "must exclude all discussion of national issues." The "struggle of the boss lies in his power to separate good men into two rival partisan camps and keep them 'perpetually quarreling among themselves while he and his followers capture the city' and plunder it to the queen's taste.

But it is the third suggestion of Mr. Welsh to which we desire to call attention, as being the one which will doubtless provoke the most dissent. That is the proposition that a "Municipal party" shall be formed in all American cities "with a view gradually to withdraw the control of city government from the hands of the national parties." It is argued that this kind of organization, by oscillating from one to the other of the old parties, accordingly as one or the other presented the better class of local candidates, could in time educate the public mind up to a point where it would not insist upon a particular partisan label upon its councilmen or its mayor, or its other executive officials, but would be content to accept, regardless of party, men best fitted to transact the

business of city government. While it is possible that the disappearance of all elements of partisan competition in municipal affairs would not be desirable, because of its tendency to encourage indifference and foster slowly-growing abuses, the fact cannot be overlooked that party lines in city elections are a great deal more flexible today than they were ten or even five years ago; nor has local government suffered by the change.

A Municipal party would be an excellent consummation if guaranteed against any lack of incentive. The question is whether a general love for the true, the beautiful and the good would be sufficient to sustain civic interest in a party that would have no spoils to divide and no enemies to fight.

THE ESTEEMED Allentown Leader is disposed to grow facetious at the expense of the local movement for Sunday observance. Thus it remarks: "It is manifest that for some days to come Scranton energy will be concentrated with terrible zeal on the accomplishment of one deep purpose. We don't refer to the advancement of Sunday observance, but the requirement of knowledge in regard to that secret trap." So long as the Law and Order league can close the doors and at the same time afford amusement to the sedate population of Allentown it is satisfied.

The Inquest Farce. Next to abolishing the coroner's inquest entirely, as a legal function that has, in an overwhelming majority of cases, grown absolutely useless, it is wise to restrict this obsolete inquiry to the narrowest possible limits. Judge McClean, of Adams county, has just rendered a decision upon this subject that has widespread interest. It has been the custom in Adams county for the commissioners to pay the costs in inquests over the bodies of suicides. Recently, however, an exception was filed, and this the court now sustains.

Judge McClean's finding is that inasmuch as the object of an inquest is to seek information and obtain evidence in case of death by violence or other unlawful means, such violence or means must be understood to refer to unlawful acts done by another person and not to include the cause of suicide. The judge further holds that when a coroner, or a justice at his absence, is called upon to view a dead body he should make some reasonable inquiry into the circumstances of the death, before proceeding to summon a jury and hold an inquest. When the surrounding facts do not show the death to be the result of unlawful acts done by another or of criminal negligence of another there is no necessity for an inquest. For the preliminary inquiries, the law has provided no compensation and they must be taken without any.

While this decision lops off a large slice of the official fatness of the coroner's system, it is eminently sensible and progressive. It is, let us hope, a fair step forward toward the complete overhauling of an institution of the law that is clogged with costly abuses and mired with general decay.

IT IS FORTUNATE that, upon a fuller presentation of the circumstances attending the arrest and commitment of the evangelist Rice, Judges Archibald and Edwards have granted a rehearing of arguments upon the defendant's appeal. This will give opportunity for the city ordinances bearing upon this case to receive a careful and comprehensive judicial interpretation, one in relation to another. However, the honorable judges may decide, it will do away with any appearance of haste, and future arrests and convictions in the municipal courts may be governed accordingly.

An Envious Investment.

The directors of the Elmhurst Boulevard company, at their meeting yesterday afternoon, decided to adopt a higher grade of work in construction of the road bed and also in the bridge across Roaring Brook at Nay Aug Falls. With a view to this they propose to increase the capital stock, which was originally \$35,000, to \$35,000, and an advertisement which appears elsewhere in THE TRIBUNE calls the attention of the stockholders to the plan.

It is not likely that the directors will experience any difficulty in placing the additional stock as the investment promises to be a paying one. The old toll road between Scranton and Elmhurst pays 20 per cent dividends and upon the same basis with the increased stock the Boulevard is certain to pay at least 10 per cent. As a pleasure drive unequalled in the state the new Boulevard will attract a vast amount of travel that has never been identified with the present drive, while its easy grades will render it a popular route for business purposes.

From every point of view the indications are that the Elmhurst boulevard stock will, in the near future, be classed among the gilt-edged securities. The driveway itself is bound to be a popular thoroughfare, and those who have money lying idle in deposit vaults would do well to give this prospectus their earnest attention.

IN HIS FORMAL defense of the reconstructed Wilson bill Senator Voorhees boasts that its income tax feature would be felt by only 35,000 persons out of the 65,000,000 who form our present population. This is an ingenious appeal to popular prejudice; but why should the other 64,915,000 persons escape their share of taxation for common purposes? Or, if we accept the theory of class legislation, why not charge the whole bill up to a dozen wealthy families, like the Vanderbilts, the Goulds, the Armours and the Astors, and thus save trouble and expense in the collection? The truth is that Mr. Voorhees' demagogic defense of this unjust, inequitable and vicious peace tax amounts in all intelligent minds to a confession of its utter despotism.

SIMMERED RIGHT down to the central essence it is to just such men as Senator Stewart that we are indebted for our Coxey and our Waite. His repudiation, therefore, of the products of his own teachings is neither manly nor chivalric. The systematic, persistent and inordinate attempt to teach that in finance two and two make five, can have no other effect than to encourage shiftlessness, inflame mania and cause

widespread destitution. The incessant appeal of paid advocates of free silver to the prejudices and the ignorance of superficial thinkers is one of the direct parents of economic unrest and of commercial stagnation. Something cannot be made of nothing, not even by the fiat of the greatest government on earth; and the sooner this damaging fallacy be abandoned the sooner will public confidence return and the sooner will boarded capital ease its stringency and get back to useful circulation.

IT IS AN unfortunate condition of affairs in any locality when brewers and distillers make a practice of encouraging the multiplication of unlicensed retail saloons. It is doubly unfortunate when they possess such a grasp upon the licensed retail liquor dealers as to prevent the latter from effectively organizing in self-protection. No wholesaler ought to encourage retail selling in contravention of the law. Like the old hsp-hazard way of mining anthracite coal, it may pay well for a time; but a period will come when it will not pay, and when the business of wholesaling, like that of coal-mining, will have to be put on a safe, scientific basis. If prohibition would be resisted by the liquor traffic in this country, it will have to be upon a broader basis than defiance of the law.

It is generally believed that Governor Flower snubbed the 'Troy citizens' committee in obedience to a direct command from Senator Hill. Flower is too inoffensive a character, when let alone, to snub anybody. The sequel will prove whether Hill or the people possess the greater snubbing power next November.

SENATOR VOORHEES, at a late hour last night, was still quoted as a free trader; but these quotations are subject to change without notice.

A LITTLE of Colonel Breckinridge's present frankness would have been a valuable adjunct earlier in the game.

GENERAL McCOOK does Coxey entirely too much honor when he pronounces him dangerous.

BLAINE As a Prophet.

Attention has recently been called to the noteworthy fact that James G. Blaine, not long before his death, uttered a prophecy which outlined the exact conditions now prevailing in this country. This is what he said: "I love my country and countrymen. I am an American, and I rejoice every day of my life that I am. I enjoy the general prosperity of my country, and know that the workingmen of this land are the best paid, the best fed and the best clothed of any laborers on the face of the earth. Many of them have homes of their own. They are surrounded by all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. I shudder, however, at the thought that the time must come when all this will be changed, when the general prosperity of the country will be destroyed, when the great body of workingmen in this land, who are now so prosperous, will hear their wives and children cry for bread; that the day must come when the great factories and manufacturing plants of this land will shut down, and where there is now life and activity there will be the silence of the tomb."

"And the reason why this must be is this: The great southern wing of the Democratic party are determined to establish the doctrine of free trade in this land. They will be assisted by their northern allies. There is a great body of visionary, but educated men, who are employed day by day in writing free trade essays and arguments in favor of the doctrine, which find their way to every newspaper in this land. The great body of our people have never experienced themselves the sufferings which always result when the protective principles are held aside. Poisoned and excited by the wild statements of these writers and the demagogic appeals of the Democratic speakers, the result will be that in the very near future these forces which now work for the good of our people will be defeated at the polls the party advocating the doctrine of protection. It must inevitably follow that uncertainty and doubt will ensue. The business men of the country, fearing the destruction of the principles of protection, will decline to engage in business, consequently mills will shut down, and the workmen will be thrown out of employment."

"The people will then see as they have never seen before that they can not be prosperous and have work while this principle is threatened. In the midst of their sufferings they will learn that the only way they can be prosperous and happy is to vote for the party that has built up the industries by which they have gained a livelihood because they will then see clearly that when the manufacturing is shut down there is no demand for the only thing which they have to sell, and that is their labor."

Boss Flower a Record Breaker. New York Tribune. Governor Flower is trying his hardest to make himself one of the most unpopular men in New York state. It is not for us to say that he is not succeeding.

His Coldness Is Frigid. New York Commercial Advertiser. You may have noticed that William C. Whitney continues to act as though there was a contagious disease in the white house.

DIVISION OF LOVE'S LABOR.

'Twas she, Not he, With blushing cheek Who sweetest love disclosed.

'Twas he, Not she, In tones so weak United love proposed.

'Twas he, Not she, With lips aglow Imparted first a kiss.

'Twas she, Not he, As you must know Reciprocated this.

'Twas he, Not she, Who named the day When hearts as one would throb.

'Twas he, Not she, Who had to pay The person for his job.

—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Edwards of the Footlights. New York Commercial Advertiser. It is surely not wonderful that young women of all kinds continue to flock to the stage when the first prize in the lottery is a probable dukedom and the lowest a third million in the estate of an American millionaire.

Recalling Ancient History. New York Commercial Advertiser. It was Colonel W. C. P. Breckinridge who characterized Benjamin Harrison's message on the Cuban question as "an attempt to ravish a weak sister."

Breckinridge's Sleazening Sang Froid. Washington Times. Everybody seems to be disgusted with the story except Mr. Breckinridge himself.

He Will Surely Get Even. Washington Post. It is presumed that Mr. Blaine is now engaged in compounding his retaliation bomb.

IN paint the best is the cheapest. Don't be misled by trying what is said to be "just as good," but when you paint insist upon having a genuine brand of Strictly Pure White Lead

It costs no more per gallon than cheap paints, and lasts many times as long.

Look out for the brands of White Lead offered you; any of the following are sure:

'Atlantic,' 'Beymer-Bauman,' 'Jewett,' 'Davis-Chambers,' 'Falmestock,' 'Armstrong & McKelvey.'

FOR COLORS.—National Lead Co.'s Pure White Lead Tinting Colors.

These colors are sold in one-pound cans, each can being sufficient to tint 25 pounds of strictly Pure White Lead the desired shade; they are in no sense ready-mixed paints, but a combination of perfectly pure colors in the hands of men to tint strictly Pure White Lead.

A good many thousand dollars have been saved property-owners by having our book on painting and color-card. Send us a postal card and get both free.

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Also a large stock of first-class

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MUSICAL MERCHANDISE MUSIC, ETC., ETC.

GUERNSEY BROS.

Will remove about April 1st to 224 Wyoming Avenue (Y. M. C. A. Building), with a full line of

Pianos and Organs

At Wholesale and Retail, on easy monthly payments. It will pay to wait for them.

ASK YOUR GROCER AND INSIST UPON HIS FURNISHING YOU WITH

STOWERS'

DELICIOUS, MILD SUGAR CURED ABSOLUTELY PURE

HAMS. LARD.

EVERY HAM AND PAIL OF LARD BRANDED.

TRADE SUPPLIED BY THE STOWERS PACKING CO., SCRANTON, PA

THAT NEW DRESS

There was a gruff fellow once who said that he never had to consult either the almanac or the weather to know that Spring was approaching. The clamor of the females of his family for new raiment was sign enough. In deference to their demand, we have brought on the first instalment of the new season's fabrics, and invite the ladies to see them. We say nothing about the man. They can have the floor for a few remarks when the bill is presented. Just now, silence with them is like the opportunity we present—golden.

The Newest Creations

French Wool Challies

Just arrived by Transatlantic Steamship Burgogne, in new and exclusive designs made especially for us. You will find many of them now on exhibition in our large show window. These goods are more popular this season than ever before on account of their great wearing qualities and fast colors, and we have got them out in short lengths, never more than two dresses of any one design and colorings.

Three Great Trade Coaxers in our Cloak Dept.

Ladies' Broadcloth Capes in all colors, with ruffle collars, full sweep, 24 inches long, \$1.73.

Ladies' Broadcloth Three-piece Capes, ruffle collar, beautifully made, 29 in. long, \$1.98.

Ladies' and Misses' Clay Diagonal Skirt Jackets, balloon sleeves, tight-fitting, at just half their value, \$4.98.

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Victors

With the New Valves Out of Sight. . . .

Our new Bicycles are now to be seen at our 314 Lackawanna avenue store.

VICTORS, SPALDING, CREDENDA, GENDRONS,

And a full line of Boys' and Girls' Wheels. We are making extremely low prices on Second-hand Wheels.

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N. B. We are offering a new edition of the Book of Common Prayer, well bound in cloth. Two Copies for 25c. Single Copies, 13c.

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In Gold and Silver.

Easter "Egg Spoon." Prayer Book Markers, Easter Book Marks,

Hand-painted Easter Eggs, Silver-mounted Leather Goods, suitable for Easter Gifts.

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NORWAY IRON BLACK DIAMOND SILVER EXTRA SPECIAL SANDERSON'S ENGLISH JESSOP'S ENGLISH CAST STEEL HORSE SHOES

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